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TO: Area Planning Officers
               Area Facility Managers
               All Health System Planning Software Users
                 Through: Acting Director OEHE
                         Headquarters East

FROM: Director
               Division of Facilities Planning and Construction
               Office of Environmental Health and Engineering

SUBJECT: Release of the HSP 2003A Health System Planning
               Software

The Division of Facilities Planning and Construction (DFPC) is pleased to announce the release of the updated Health System Planning (HSP) software program HSP2003A. This version has been tested thoroughly by a group of Area Planners and Facility Management staff, including testing of thresholds and results consistency. The group has discussed the performance of the new version and they believe, in a majority of situations, time and effort will be saved and increased reliability achieved by adopting the HSP 2003A version as soon as practicable.

As a result of this action, the HSP 2003A updated version of the HSP program supercedes any previous version, and shall be used for all current projects lacking an approved Program of Requirements. In addition, existing draft documents shall be updated using HSP 2003A. Areas that are currently developing their Area-wide Master Plans are encouraged to adopt the new version.
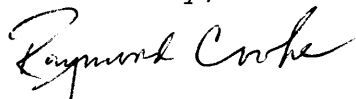
The major changes in the new HSP 2003A version can be viewed in Attachment A. Please note that this version continues to use the 2001 user population. The HSP 2003A software may be downloaded from the following website: ftp://ftp.ihs.gov/pubs/DES-Dallas/HSP_2003/ The HSP website that was specifically developed to post bulletins, lessons learned, and information of use to other HSP users, etc., is being moved to a new location and is not currently accessible. We will keep you posted on its progress.

Although version HSP2003 was just released in May 2003, it remains our intention to minimize the updates to this software while maintaining a current and usable tool. At this point, we anticipate updates on an annual basis but only after a

careful review of the impact of the update by planners and
facilities staff. We will attempt to alert you of any plans to
update the HSP well in advance of that action being taken.

Any questions on the use of version HSP 2003A may be directed to
Mr. Gerald Inglett of the Division of Engineering Services,
Dallas, Texas (DES-D) at (214)767-3898 or to Ed Cayous, DFPC,
Rockville, MD at (301)443-1851. Additional information relevant
to this new release can also be obtained from the website:
ftp://ftp.ihs.gov/pubs/DES-Dallas/HSP_2003/ in a file named:
Read_Me_Before_Downloading_HSP2003a.

                         Sincerely,

                         for José F. Cuzme, P.E.

Attachment

Attachment A

The following changes to the HSP 2003 and are incorporated into the HSP 2003A version.

1.   The setup now adds a new folder called 'My HSP Projects' under the current user's 'My Documents' folder. This new folder is the default directory for all imported and exported projects.

2.   Updated the 'Service Area Selection' function. You can now select communities from various service units and more than one IHS Area.

3.   Enhanced the messaging provided when performing an 'Import/Export Project' or a 'Copy Project As...' function. Also, any projects created in the HSP 2003 version can be exported and re-imported into the HSP 2003A version without having to re-create a new project from scratch.

4.   Moved the 'Delete Project' menu line item away from the 'Open' project menu line item. This should help with accidental deletion of a project.

5.   Enhanced templates, defining characteristics, report calculations and verified justification and deviation formats, making corrections when required.

6.   Verified discipline thresholds and relationship requirements making adjustments as needed.

7.   Worked on PJD/POR reports. Formats are now readily useable.

8.   Made corrections to the 'Surgery' threshold calculations and the 'Public Facilities' calculations.